

**To:** Martin, John[Martin.JohnJ@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Beck, Nancy[Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Enck, Judith  
**Sent:** Thur 1/28/2016 7:47:45 PM  
**Subject:** RE: 3:15 AP Interview?

I can do 3:15 but 3pm would be better if that is possible. Also free after 5:30 thanks

**From:** Martin, John  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2016 2:46 PM  
**To:** Enck, Judith <Enck.Judith@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Beck, Nancy <Beck.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** 3:15 AP Interview?

Hello Judith,

These responses to Mary Esch of AP have been approved by R2 and HQ. I believe you are still free from 3:15-3:30, and then after 5:30.

Should I set up your interview for either of these times, or just hold off until tomorrow?

**What is EPA doing to determine whether other communities have PFOA contamination in their water supplies? Is there any effort underway to identify places that are potentially at risk, and have the water tested?**

SDWA requires EPA to publish the Contaminant Candidate List (CCL) every five years. The drinking water CCL is a list of contaminants that are currently not subject to any proposed or promulgated national primary drinking water regulations, but are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems. EPA uses the CCL to identify priority contaminants for information collection and regulatory decision making. In 2009, EPA identified PFOA and PFOS as drinking water contaminant candidates as a part of the third CCL (CCL 3).

SDWA also requires that once every five years EPA identify no more than 30 unregulated drinking water contaminants for monitoring at public water systems. The third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 3) was published on May 2, 2012. UCMR 3 represents the Agency's current effort to characterize the levels at which particular unregulated contaminants (including PFOA) are occurring in drinking water and measure the frequency of that occurrence on a national basis. All large public water systems (serving greater than 10,000) and a representative sample of 800 small systems have been participating in the UCMR 3 program and the Agency will be assessing the soon-to-be-complete data set.

Furthermore, EPA Region 2 has begun a thorough review through all of its appropriate programs and consulting with our State counterparts to determine if any response efforts are necessary in other communities.

**Also, why is there no enforceable limit on PFOA or PFOS in drinking water?**

The EPA has been evaluating PFOS and PFOA as drinking water contaminants in accordance with the risk based contaminant evaluation process that was established by the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

EPA has been compiling and evaluating information about the health effects and occurrence of PFOA and PFOS in drinking water in order for the Agency to be able to make the regulatory determinations for these contaminants. Furthermore, prior to making a regulatory determination, EPA will complete a peer reviewed risk assessment. Meanwhile, the EPA is developing drinking water health advisories for PFOA and PFOS. Once they are finalized, these advisories will supersede the 2009 provisional health advisories for these chemicals.

**What is the EPA timetable for addressing the Hoosick Falls water contamination?**

Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics has said it will pay for retrofitting the existing public water treatment plant with a granular activated carbon treatment system that will remove PFOA from the drinking water supply. This system is expected to be installed by the end of October of 2016.

The new treatment system is being designed now. There is a schedule on the Village of Hoosick Falls' web site – <http://www.villageofhoosickfalls.com/news.html>. The New York State Health Department (NYSDOH) will review the engineering work and will only approve a treatment system that effectively removes the PFOA from the water.

In the interim, the Village has ordered a temporary treatment system for the public water supply, which is also being funded by Saint-Gobain. The Village has stated that it expects this system to be operational by the end of February. This system will be used to remove PFOA from the water supply until the permanent retrofit of the water treatment plant is completed. Until this temporary system is fully operational and confirmed to be consistently removing PFOA to acceptable levels, residents should continue to take advantage of the free bottled water that is being made available at the Tops Market in Hoosick Falls.

NYSDOH is also continuing to sample private wells in the Town of Hoosick to determine whether PFOA is present, and EPA and the State are reviewing the sampling data as it is developed. Homeowners who wish to have their private well tested should contact NYSDOH.

In addition, EPA will be conducting an assessment to determine what other actions are warranted. This assessment includes sampling of the groundwater and soils (including local ballfields). The results of this assessment will be used to evaluate what short-term actions (in addition to those described above) are needed, as well as what long-term actions may be needed. New York State has requested that EPA evaluate Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corp.'s plant on McCaffrey Street (and any other source of a release of PFOA in the Village of Hoosick Falls or Town of Hoosick) for inclusion on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). EPA has begun to evaluate the contaminated groundwater and potential source areas for inclusion on the NPL. If the site is listed on the NPL, EPA would conduct or require potentially responsible parties to conduct a thorough study to determine the nature and extent of the contamination, identify the source or sources of the contamination, and evaluate alternatives for cleaning up or containing the contamination. After that, EPA would carry out or require potentially responsible parties to conduct the selected remedies.

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